OIPE JC32 OCT 24 2003 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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GP 2881

PATENT
Atty. Dkt. No. ZIMR/0002.Y1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: §
Brunner, et al. §
§
Serial No.: 09/977,549 §
§
Confirmation No.: 4145 §
§
Filed: October 15, 2001 §
§
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS §
FOR TESTING A SUBSTRATE §

Group Art Unit: 2881

Examiner: Bruce Anderson

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TC 2800 MAIL ROOM

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
37 CFR 1.8
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on 10/21, 2003 with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

10/21/03 Kristi L. Rupert
Date Signature

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JULY 21, 2003

In response to the Office Action dated July 21, 2003 having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on October 21, 2003, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicant believes that no additional fees are due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/ZIMR/0002.Y1, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.